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STATE FOR NEA/MAG, PM/PPA - SCOTT KWAK, PM/RSAT - BERNETA LEE, L/PM, L/T

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KTIA MARR MASS PGOV MO XA

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE DELIVERED ON AMENDING THE 505 AGREEMENT

WITH MOROCCO

**REF: STATE 115664** 

11. (U) This cable is sensitive but unclassified. Please protect accordingly.

- 12. (SBU) Per reftel, Poloffs met July 27 with MFA Bilateral Affairs and Counterterrorism officer Karim Halim to encourage the Government of Morocco (GOM) to replace its existing 505 agreement with the text of a new agreement, which poloffs provided to Halim via diplomatic note number 257. Poloffs stressed that Morocco will be unable to receive training or equipment unless it agrees to provide end-use, retransfer and security assurances to defense articles and services pursuant to section 1206 authority, explained that our current agreement does not provide these assurances, and outlined the necessary steps the GOM must take in order to enter into a new agreement.
- (SBU) In response, Halim asked several questions including would the new agreement mean that Morocco must seek USG authorization every time it trained a non-Moroccan in the framework of the Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Initiative (TSCTI) using US equipment. He said he would transmit the new agreement text to the MFA's Legal Affairs Division and other concerned government offices for review, noting that the GOM could propose amendments to this text, which he explained is normal and logical in any agreement. He also said that the Moroccan response will likely be in French and Arabic according to GOM standard practice. Halim thanked Poloffs for the information and pledged to contact the Embassy when the appropriate GOM officials have reviewed the new agreement text, which he mentioned could be "several months." Post will coordinate with the Department per reftel should the MFA response note propose changes to the proposed text in diplomatic note number 257 or if it is written in a language other than English.

RILEY